

Q # 1120

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Top Secret

Dispatched: 23 July 1941, P. M., WASHINGTON  
Received: 24 July 1941, A. M., Foreign Office

To: Foreign Minister TOYODA  
From: Ambassador NOMURA

No. 550 (Urgent - Top Secret - Ambassador's Code)

In the telegrams of July 3 and July 19, I have mentioned what the effects on Japanese-American relations would be when our southern advance is contemplated. Today, these effects have rapidly developed to a stage where there is danger that diplomatic relations between these two countries may be severed. Sensing the urgency of the situation from the conversation on Monday between WAKASUGI and the Assistant Secretary of State, on Tuesday I requested an interview with the Assistant Secretary of State. The request was finally granted and I am scheduled to interview him at 3:00 p.m. this coming Wednesday. Last night I met a cabinet member who had hurriedly returned from his trip. He too told me that Secretary HULL was taking a rest for his health and that WELLES was at a loss for what to do, and he intimated that he could not do anything for us. He asked for my opinion so I replied that I have not lost hope and will do my best according to my belief. However, it is believed that things will develop to a point just short of a diplomatic break.

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The cause for the rapid change of American public opinion toward JAPAN lies in the southward advance. They consider that the southward advance is the first step which will eventually lead to SINGAPORE and the DUTCH EAST INDIES. The U. S. Navy officers are presumed to have the same opinion. There is criticism that on one hand JAPAN is planning her southward advance, and on the other hand is trying to conclude an agreement with AMERICA, and that the Secretary of State is being deceived. With his physical condition as such, there are also rumors that he may resign. Furthermore, reports from TOKYO, which tend to make our real intentions questionable, keep coming in frequently. Some of the outstanding ones are: (a) The negotiations carried on by us here will be "torpedoed" in TOKYO. (b) JAPAN has explained to the Axis Powers that the adjustment of Japanese-American diplomacy is a strategem to complete preparations for a southward advance. There are rumors that even the highest authorities have begun to listen to these reports. Briefly speaking, even while the negotiations are going on, there are attempts at

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alienation and slander by the third countries. It is obvious that there are opposition movements both in JAPAN and AMERICA and the situation now is really difficult.

I suggest that the Japanese government lose no time in manifesting to the American ambassador the sincere intentions of JAPAN in regard to the adjustment of Japanese-American diplomacy and the real intentions of JAPAN's occupation in FRENCH INDO-CHINA. It is also requested that you notify me as soon as possible of the new cabinet's policy toward AMERICA. As a man given a new lease on life, I am resolved to do my utmost. (End)

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昭和十六年七月二十三日後華府發  
七月二十四日前本省着

豐田外務大臣

野村大使

第五五〇號（至急、極秘、館長符號）  
我南進ノ場合日米關係ニ及ホス影響ニ付テハ七月  
七月十九日電ヲ以テ申進セシ處今日其ノ影響ハ可成リ  
急速度ヲ以テ進展シ國交斷絶一步手前迄進ムノ惧大ナ  
リ月曜若杉國務次官會談ニ依リ事態ノ急迫ヲ感シ火曜  
日國務次官ニ會見ヲ申込ミシ處漸ク今水曜午後三時會  
見ノ筈ナリ昨夜急據旅行先ヨリ歸來セル一閣僚ニ  
セル處同氏モ「ハル」長官ハ保養中ナリ「ウエ」ズニ  
モ因却シツツアリトテ何トモシ難キ口吻ナリ本使ノ意  
見ヲ問ヘルヲ以テ本使ハ決シテ希望ヲ失ハス所信ニ從  
ヒ最善ヲ盡スト答ヘ置キタルモ國交斷絶一步手前迄行  
クモノト認メラル  
當方面ノ對日空氣急變ノ原因ハ南進ニ在リ而シテ南進  
ハ艦ヲ新嘉坡、蘭印ニ進ム第一步ナリト認ムルニ在リ  
當國海軍軍人モ爾ク認メツツアル模様ナリ又日本ハ一  
面日米了解ヲ賣物ト爲シ反面南進ノ策ヲ立テ國務長官

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2.

ソ如キハ屬サレタルナリトノ非難モアル運ニテ長官ノ健康  
康狀態ト相俟テ辭職説モアル由ナリ又東京ヨリハ我眞  
意ヲ疑ハシムル情報頻々トシテ來リ最モ顯著ナルモノ  
ハ(イ)本使等ノ交渉ハ東京ニ於テ爆破(「トルビドー」)  
サルヘシ(ロ)日本ハ樞軸側ニ對シ日米國交調節ハ南進準  
備完成迄ノ謀略ナリト云フ説明ヲ與ヘタリト云フニ在  
リ此等ノ情報ニハ最高責任者モ漸ク耳ヲ傾ケ出スニ至  
リタリト云フ説モアリ要スルニ交渉進行中既に第三國  
側ノ離間中傷アリ日米双方ニ夫々反對運動アリタルニ  
相違ナシ今ヤ眞ニ六ヶ敷キ形勢ニ在リ  
就テハ一面米國大使ニ機ヲ失セズ日本政府ノ日米國交  
調節ニ關スル誠意ト銘印進駐ノ眞意トラ御披露相成様致  
度シ又本使ニ對シテハ至急新内閣ノ對米御方針御内示  
相成度ク本使モ起死回生ノ續リニテ十二分ノ努力ヲ致  
シタキ覺悟ナリ(了)